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(54) Title: CYTOPATHIC VIRUSES FOR THERAPY AND PROPHYLAXIS OF NEOPLASIA

(57) Abstract

Methods and compositions for treating neoplastic conditions by viral-based therapy are provided. Mutant virus lacking viral proteins which bind and/or inactivate p53 or RB are administered to a patient having a neoplasm which comprises cells lacking p53 and/or RB function. The mutant virus is able to substantially produce a replication phenotype in non-replicating, non-neoplastic cells having essentially normal p53 and/or RB function. The preferential generation of replication phenotype in neoplastic cells results in a preferential killing of the neoplastic cells, either directly or by expression of a cytotoxic gene in cells expressing a viral replication phenotype.